

REMARKS

Claims 1–11 are pending. Claims 12–37 are withdrawn from consideration.

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 12 and 28 have been amended to depend on claim 1, reciting in relevant part, a method for processing a substrate “using the apparatus of claim 1.” This amendment is supported in the specification, for example, in ¶ [0048] on page 14 (“An embodiment **500** of a method for contacting the front- and backsides of a wafer with a process gas is illustrated in **FIG. 5**, *with reference to the apparatus illustrated in FIG. 1A, FIG. 1B, and FIG. 1C* in which the upper load platform is fixed.”).

Claim 28 has been amended to correct one of the recited steps as follows: “performing a first process on the substrate while loaded upon the first load platform, wherein the first process comprises contacting the upper and lower sides of the substrate to a first process gas.” The omission of “contacting the” is a clear typographical error. The amendment is supported in the specification, for example, in ¶ [0020] on page 4 (“Disclosed herein is an apparatus and a process for *contacting* with a process gas both the front- and backsides of a substrate used in the fabrication of an integrated device.”).

Claims 13–16 have been amended to replace “upper load platform” and “lower load platform” with --first load platform -- and --second load platform -- to correct the antecedent basis for these terms.

Claims 28, 31, 33, and 34 have been amended to recite --first load platform-- and --second load platform-- in place of “first platform” and “second platform.” The amendment makes consistent the antecedent basis for these terms. Support for this amendment is found in the specification, for example ¶ [0022] on page 5, and throughout the specification.

Election

The Examiner divided the claims into two groups:

Group I: Claims 1–11, directed to an apparatus; and

Group II: Claims 12–37, directed to a substrate processing method.

Applicants elect Group I, with the following comment. Claims 12 and 28 are method claims that have been amended to depend on claim 1, which is an apparatus claim. Claims 13–27 are dependent on claim 12. Claims 29–34 are dependent on claim 28. Under M.P.E.P. 821.04:

Application No. : 10/775,522

Responsive to a Restriction Requirement mailed August 2, 2005

Response filed August 29, 2005

[I]f applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that claims 12-34 be rejoined when the underlying apparatus claim is found allowable.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 29, 2005

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